

HOUSE DISTRICT PASSED BY HOUSE

Mr. Mann Moves to Recommit, With Instructions to Favor Half-and-Half.

ATTACK ON COMMITTEE AROUSES WARM DEBATE

Difficulty in Selection of Hospital Site Given as Cause for Failure to Approve.

The District appropriation bill passed the House late this afternoon, and immediately Representative Mann of Illinois moved to recommit the bill to the appropriations committee with instructions to bring it back to the House written in conformity with the half-and-half plan. A roll-call vote on the Mann motion was in progress when The Star's account closed.

The bill was completed in committee of the whole with no important changes, with the exception of an additional \$20,000 for street cleaners' wages. Representative Mondell endeavored unsuccessfully to get into the bill provision for public parks on the Dean and Patterson tracts.

The location of the proposed municipal hospital, which has aroused countless protests in the District of Columbia from nearly every neighborhood in the city, threw the House of Representatives into a slam-bang battle today, after Representative Mondell had delivered a heavy and diversely worded attack on the District committee for not producing legislation covering the city's hospital needs.

The diversion was a part of the District appropriation bill debate, and was responsible for what was regarded as one of the most remarkable propositions ever heard on the floor of the House. This came from Representative Howard of Georgia, whose facility at throwing hand grenade retorts has given him a place in the legislative trenches on the appropriations committee.

"Why doesn't the District committee act on this hospital matter?" inquired Representative Mondell, walking up and down as if patrolling the frontier. He said it again and again:

"Why doesn't the District committee act?"

At this Representative Howard jumped up, up half a step, and across the hall, put up this proposition:

"Why don't you climb a greased pole backward with your arms full of cats?"

And thus the Wyoming republican carried the blow:

"Were it my sworn duty I would at least make a start. The District committee doesn't start."

Chairman Johnson of the District committee had the appearance of a man distinctly bored by the clatter. He didn't pay the slightest attention to Representative Mondell's walking up and down, or to the clatter of the bill on the subject of the District committee would assure him action.

"What is the objection?" asked Representative Mondell.

"I think people are unduly alarmed."

"Then you are prepared to say the absence of an appropriation for this much needed hospital is due to the protests against a site?"

"Yes. The residents in no section of the city are willing to let the hospital be built near them. The only thing left is to dump these unfortunate people into the river or ship them out of the District," said Representative Page, who continued to explain that the pressure brought by the residents of the city and by private institutions had been so felt in Congress that he desired of the House and had therefore not included it in the District bill.

"Unable to Settle Differences."

"The appropriations committee can't settle the differences of residents of this city," said he, "and yet it is a crying shame that there are no better provisions for the indigent sick than there are here. They are crowded into the corridors of the present hospital in shameful fashion."

Representative Howard of Georgia said the trouble reminded him of a cat and dog fight and said there are two interests involved—one the privately maintained hospital which he said are interested in getting appropriations from the government to take care of poor sick and the second, he said, are real estate interests.

"There are thousands of dogs in this city," he declared, "which receive better treatment than the poor cat at the present municipal hospital."

The bill made fair progress today and will possibly be completed before the House adjourns. One of the changes made today was in relation to the Columbia Hospital for Women.

where an amendment was approved whereby the fiscal arrangements of the hospital would be under the direction of the Commissioners.

Representative Johnson made a point of order, which was sustained, against a proposed increase in salary from \$1,000 to \$1,500 for the District's alienist. The interest and sinking fund item was placed on a half-and-half basis as was arranged for several days ago.

Provision for Parks Ruled Out.

Representative Mondell offered an amendment providing for the proposed parks between the Patterson and Dean tracts. They went out on a point of order raised against them by Representative Page. During the discussion Representative Mann of Illinois said that the Dean property was the finest piece of property he had ever seen in any city, and that one oak tree alone had a greater spread than any other oak tree in the world.

Wages of 'White Wings' Increased.

The first tangible result of the hearings in the labor committee on the Nolan bill for a three-dollar-a-day minimum wage for government workmen was a four-hour day from yesterday afternoon, when Representative Stafford of Wisconsin, aided by his colleagues, Representative Cooper and several others, forced an amendment to the District bill providing a two-dollar-a-day scale for "white wings" in the District street cleaning department. The amendment increased the lump-sum appropriation for these wages by \$20,000. The Staff amendment was adopted at the culmination of a spirited debate, in which Republicans put Democrats on the defensive. Chairman Page said the present wage of \$1.50 a day enables many men to work who would be crowded out of jobs by competition from better men under the two-dollar scale. Finally on a vote by yeas and nays the Staff amendment was adopted, 33 to 25.

Considerable progress was made on the bill yesterday afternoon, although several points of order against small increases were made by various members. Representative Mondell consistently offered throughout the bill amendments to the bill up to the estimates of the Commissioners, and was defeated each time.

ASSERTS OFFICIALS INSTALLED LOBBY

Senate Post Office Committee Plans to Call Burleson and Blakslee to Account.

Members of the Senate post office committee are planning to call Postmaster General Burleson and Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Blakslee sharply to account for a lobby said to have been instituted by the department to defeat Senate committee amendments to the post office appropriation bill. The committee members have been pouring in upon members of both the Senate and House urging them to vote against the Senate committee amendments. These messages are signed by postmasters and by patrons of their post offices.

A letter alleged to have been written by the postmaster at Louisville, Ky., to the Senate committee, was sent from Washington to notify all the postmasters in the state to get busy in the matter of the bill. The Senate post office committee has summoned Mr. Blakslee, who has charge of the rural free delivery service, which is mentioned in the letter, to appear before it tomorrow and explain the propaganda which has been started by the department.

Letter of Louisville Postmaster.

The letter of the Louisville postmaster is as follows:

U. S. Post Office, Louisville, Ky., May 19, 1916.

Postmaster: I am ordered by the Post Office Department at Washington to notify all postmasters in Kentucky that the railroad lobby in Washington is endeavoring to defeat the bill now before Congress proposed by the Post Office Department.

It would result in a curtailment of the rural free delivery service to such an extent that it would affect not less than 20,000 rural patrons in Kentucky alone. You are, therefore, urged to at once inform the residents of your district of the situation and to use your efforts to defeat the railroad lobby, and have as many as possible of your patrons do the same.

ERNEST T. SCHMITT, Postmaster.

At Loss to Understand.

Senators are at a loss to understand today just how the "railroad lobby" is interested in supporting the rural free delivery amendments to the bill made by the Senate committee.

The Senate committee and Postmaster General Burleson are wide apart, however, on the matter of railway mail pay and also on the rural free delivery service, and it has been suggested that an effort is being made by the department to arouse the rural voters with the aid of the "railroad lobby."

In the House Representative Good of Iowa has introduced a resolution calling for an investigation of the "lobby" started by the Post Office Department to defeat the Senate committee amendments.

Rev. James Nelson Here.

Rev. James Nelson, first pastor and founder of the West Washington Baptist Church, came to the city today from Richmond, Va., and will be present this evening at a reception to be held in connection with the fiftieth anniversary celebration of the founding of the church. Mr. Nelson now is president of the church and is expected to be in the city for some time.

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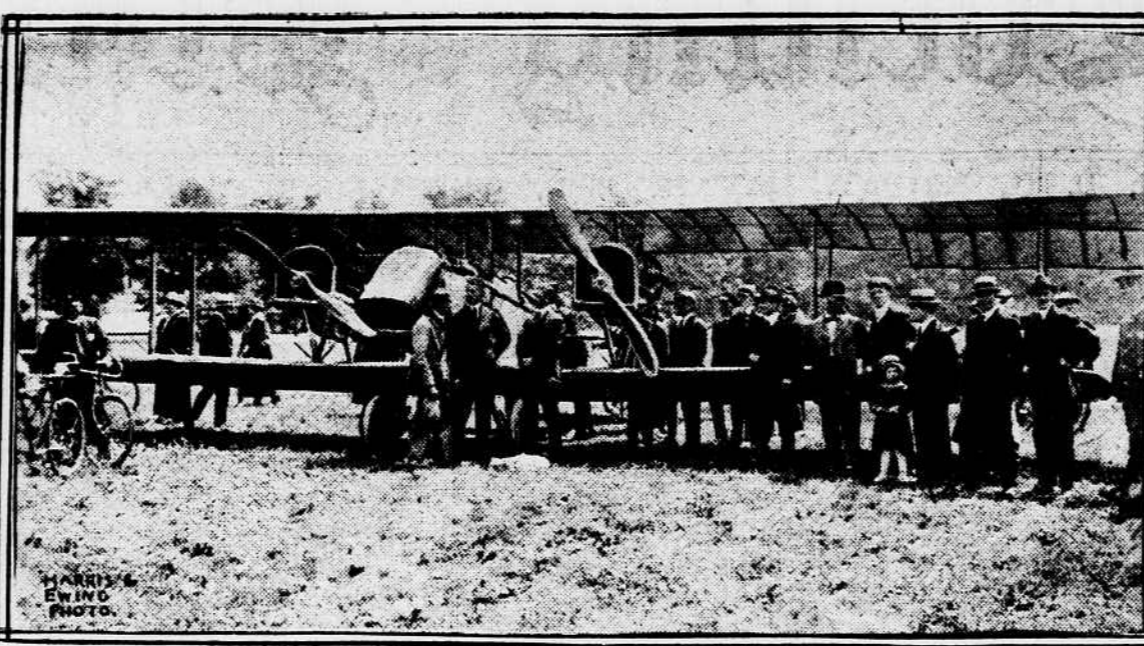
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CUTS NEW YORK-WASHINGTON TIME FROM FIVE TO THREE HOURS.



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The machine was a Curtiss military tractor driven by two 100-horsepower motors, with a wing spread of fifty feet. The machine cost \$15,000, and after being exhibited in Washington, it will be shipped to the Mexican border as a gift to the New Mexico National Guard for patrol work. The observer's seat is in front of the main fuselage, and the machine may be equipped with a light-weight, rapid-fire machine gun. It will carry 1,000 pounds. This picture shows the two propellers and the outlines of the machine. Aviator Carlstrom, who has just landed, is standing with cap in hand talking with Lieut. Taylor of the aviation corps and his mechanic.

That there is such a thing as being too big was discovered by Capt. Ralph Taylor early this morning when he attempted to move the Curtiss military tractor J. N. 8, which flew yesterday from New York to Washington in a little more than three hours, from the grounds to the White lot, where it was to have been inspected by cabinet officers and members of Congress at 10:30 o'clock.

When the giant flier got out on the Speedway its wings, fifty-four feet wide, began jamming against the tree branches on both sides of the road, and rather than allow injury to the machine, which is expected to do patrol duty in Mexico within the next week, "safety first" was adopted as the best policy and the machine was put back on the field.

The postponed official inspection will take place tomorrow morning. In the meantime the public is welcome to visit it, announces the national aerial patrol commission. Large crowds looked on over last evening and this morning.

PENSIONS ARE INCREASED.

Widows to Get Three-Quarters of M. E. Church Ministers' Salaries.

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y., May 26.—The pensions paid by the Methodist Episcopal Church to widows of ministers will be largely increased as the result of action taken by the general conference. A resolution adopted today provides that a clergyman's widow shall receive at least one-third of the sum paid to a retired minister. The former rate was one-half.

The conference agreed on Monday noon as the date for final adjournment.

OVERCOME BY GAS AT HOME.

Miss Nellie Winkelman Said Now to Be Recovering.

Miss Nellie Winkelman of 265 C street southeast, accidentally overcome by gas last evening while attempting to heat some water on a gas stove in the kitchen of her home, is now on the road to recovery.

The young woman, who is handicapped on account of defective eyesight, went into the kitchen to heat the water and fainted after turning on the gas.

Later her mother discovered her and she was taken at once to Casualty Hospital, where the pulmonologist was applied. Miss Winkelman rallied later and was able to be taken to her home.

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Lamar Memorial Exercises.

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Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia will preside. Former President Taft and many other distinguished lawyers and jurists are expected to attend.

Would Erect Asbury Memorial.

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The memorial is to be erected by the Francis Asbury Memorial Association.

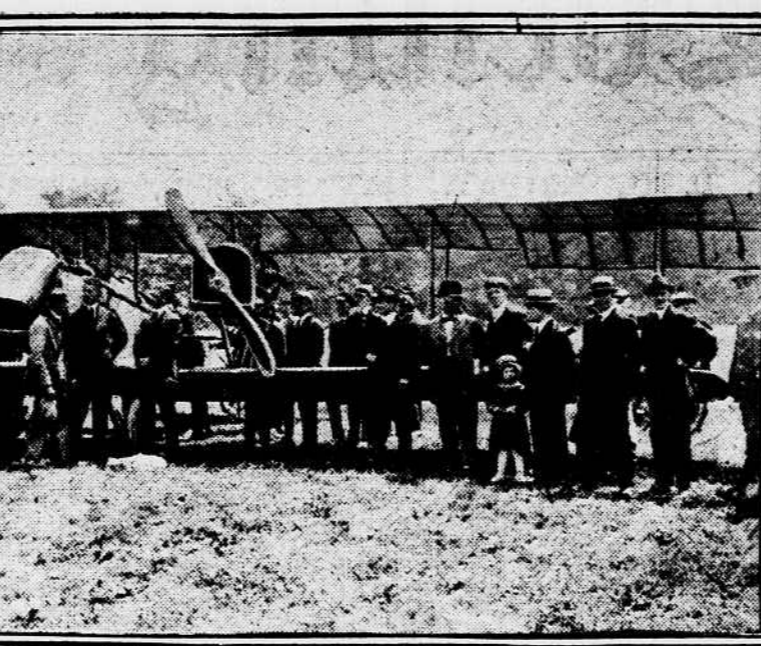
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HEAVIEST FIGHTING SHIFTS EASTWARD



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NO PESSIMISM SHOWN BY ITALIAN OFFICIALS

